

## Graham School Site Council Meeting Minutes

**Date: 03-07-2019**

**Time: 4:30pm- 6:00pm**

**Location: Large Conference Room (904) at Front Office**

Attendees:

Members: Hafsa Mirza, Michael Hermosillo, Vern Taylor, Claire Weber, Kirstin Solorzano, Jessica Lee, Arundhati Bose, Margaret Otto, Tarush Verma, Anita Chang, Jose Virgen

Meeting was called to order by Chair Mirza at 4:32 pm.

Motion by Anita Chang to approve minutes from last SSC (02-07-2019); seconded by Arundhati Bose. Motion carried to approve.

**Update: School Site Plan** -- presented by Vern Taylor

### ELA

SIOP is being used extensively in the classroom (share pairs, etc.).

RTI: ELA enrichment wheel is being well-received by parents.

### Math

Data (benchmark testing results) are being examined and plan/next steps will be adjusted accordingly.

Climate goal: reduction of suspensions

The state recognized that, due to state tracking, suspensions (even when merited) were being avoided to improve "numbers." Now the state is tracking all behavior-driven interactions, not just suspensions. Graham will continue having "tracking visits," to follow-up with at-risk students even though it may worsen our reported "numbers."

Achievement gap: after school interventions

1. Harmony Plus program: 20 8th-grade students have been identified to participate in a pilot reading intervention program for 7 weeks prior to benchmark testing.
2. "The Beat" (homework help) will be getting more support.
3. "Homework Club": several teachers involved, all subjects covered.
4. New program for "skills help" will involve 5-10 students and 3-4 teachers.

**School Safety Plan Review** -- presented by Vern Taylor

State-mandated School Safety Plan has been updated and approved by school safety officer. The District maintains "Safety and Emergency Plans" online at [https://www.mvwsd.org/parents/safety\\_and\\_emergencies](https://www.mvwsd.org/parents/safety_and_emergencies).

Safety Plan goals for 2018-19 were reviewed:

- 1: GMS will improve school climate with revised, more positive, disciplinary procedures.
  - 1.1 Increase positive recognition (Awesome Acts, more timely Block G, etc.)
  - 1.2 Meet with known at-risk students regularly to provide encouragement/guidance
  - 1.3 Adopt a Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL) Program
  - 1.4 Provide after school time to students to address specific discipline issue with targeted intervention
- 2: GMS will improve school climate using the Essential Elements.
  - 1.1 Welcome Week to train students on expectations of being a Graham Bear
  - 1.2 Three revisit days per school year on the Essential Elements (only 2 this year due to smoke day)
  - 1.3 Use Essential Elements as part of disciplinary process

School Site Council representatives (Chair, parent rep, staff rep, teacher rep) signed off on School Safety Plan as required.



**Distinguished School** -- presented by Michael Hermosillo

It was announced that both Graham Middle School and Crittenden Middle School have been named California Distinguished Schools for a two-year period beginning in 2019.

**Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL) Training** -- presented by Michael Hermosillo

Graham is initiating a pilot SEL program called Mind Up.  
All teachers will be trained on March 19, a professional development day.

**Science Fair and College/Career Day** -- discussion led by Hafsa Mirza

It was determined that a College Day is not workable at this time and not practical at the middle school level.  
Hafsa Mirza indicated that she will make a poll to determine interest in a Science Fair and/or Career Day.  
Claire Weber has plans to start an after school Science Fair Club to allow students with a passion for Science Fair to make a project without committing to Science Fair as an elective.

Future Agenda Items: Updates of School Site Plan will be addressed at future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Mirza at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anita Chang